

# Human Relations News

from the **MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON GROUP RELATIONS**

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

LEO P. CARLIN, MAYOR

An official agency created by the Newark Fair Practice Ordinance to carry out the State policy against discrimination based on race, color, creed or national origin.

Vol. 2 No. 1

A bi-monthly summary of facts and trends in human relations and civil rights

October 1957

## Program for United Nations Week

For the fifth consecutive year, the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations was designated as the agency to coordinate the city-wide observance of United Nations Week. These celebrations bring together the representatives and members of more than one hundred clubs, organizations and institutions who co-operate in the planning and production of the programs. These citizens are not only representative of the civic and social organizations of this community but also the racial, ethnic and religious groups of Newark. During the four months of its activities, the Planning Committee is a model of United Nations organization in operation. Mrs. Philip Josephson was named chairman of the Newark Committee for the 3rd consecutive year.

This year's observance, to be held at The Essex House, on *Tuesday October 29*, will feature a UN dinner, at 6:30 p.m., followed by an open, public meeting highlighting the folk dancing and music of Italy, Israel, Turkey, Ghana, Ireland, Far Eastern and South American countries. The dinner is in honor of the Ambassador from the newest UN Member State, Malaya. His Excellency Dr. Ismail bin Dato Abdul Rahman. The Ambassador will be the principal speaker. Mayor Leo P. Carlin will also honor the many organizations which have cooperated in sponsoring the Newark UN Day Celebrations for the past five years. The cost of the dinner is \$5.00 per person.

The Folk Festival will begin at 8:30 p.m. in the Elizabethan Room of the

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## Survey of Changing Neighborhoods In Newark Proceeds

### Formal Proposals Requested For Research Program

Benjamin A. Collier, Chairman of the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations announced last week that the Commission will launch an intensive survey of changing neighborhoods in this community. He said, that a general population inventory will be made to supply general background information necessary for the continuing education and action program of the Commission.

Daniel Anthony, Commission Director announced that the areas of the

study were selected on the basis of findings of a research team led by Dr. Chester Rapkin of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies.

The Newark Evening News characterized the study, "Newark exceptionally fine in Civil Rights". The New York Times and other newspapers and magazines have given prominent space to the research being conducted in Newark. (See next Page.)

Samuel Weitzman, Chairman of the

(Continued on Page 4, Column 3)



Representatives of co-operating organizations at a recent meeting, plan for the 12th United Nations Anniversary celebration on October 29th. Mayor Leo P. Carlin is honorary chairman of the event and Mrs. Philip Josephson is chairman.

# Newark Sunday News

NEWARK, N. J., SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1957

TELEPHONE MARKET

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1957.

## NEWARK TO PRESS POPULATION STUDY

Survey by Group Relations  
Commission Will Consider  
Neighborhood Changes

By MELVIN IRONSON

**NEWARK,** Oct. 5.—The Mayor's Commission on Group Relations announced today that as a follow-up to a preliminary survey on group relations it would sponsor an extensive study of Newark's Negro households and a population inventory.

Commissioner A. Collier, chairman of the commission, said the survey would be made by the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies at a cost of \$20,000. The findings are expected to supply data for a comprehensive report. The agency will base its future program of education and action on the survey.

The preliminary survey, made public last week, was conducted by a team headed by Dr. Chester Rapkin of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies. It involved a sampling of problems in group relations and related them to the operation of schools, police, fire, other services offered by the city.

It pointed Newark with having an "exceptionally fine" record in establishing and protecting civil rights among all groups, but found neighborhood tensions among whites and Negroes, and problems in employment, housing and schools that concerned Mayor Collier.

Mr. Collier said the population inventory would attempt to determine as accurately as possible the racial and national composition of every household and record such information as changing neighborhood patterns.

The study is expected to disclose residents' attitudes toward Negroes and to see if the cooperation has changed, in those that are in the process of moving to Newark and new areas that remain unchanged.

Daniel R. Anthony, director

## Newark 'Exceptionally Fine' In Civil Rights, Study Says

By ANGELO RAGGIO

Newark's record in establishing and protecting the civil rights of all groups is "exceptionally fine," even among northern cities, but racial tension and problems still exist, a population survey has indicated.

The survey was conducted by a research team headed by Dr. Chester Rapkin

of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies, after a three-month survey of group relations in Newark. The 160-page report was presented for the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations in Newark.

It concluded that Newark's record in establishing and protecting the civil rights of all groups is "exceptionally fine," even among northern cities, but racial tension and problems still exist, a population survey has indicated.

Dr. Rapkin was assisted by George and Francis Rapkin, his wife, and a Negro woman who now works with the New York State Division of Agricultural Education.

The significance of the study was pointed up by the report's estimate that between 125,000 and 220,000 Negroes

now live in Newark and that Negroes make up 25 to 30 per cent of the city's population.

The report pointed out that the Negro population in Newark has declined steadily since 1930. While the number of Negroes in Newark has increased, the report said, the growth is due largely to Negroes immigrating to Newark, mostly from the South, was given as the main factor in the increase in Negro population.

In Newark, as in the country at large, there is a marked increase in residential units of residential houses.

By emphasizing that their particular area was deviated mainly in analysis of relations between Negroes and whites, the report said.

"Although there are definite

Newark Evening News

Editorial page of THE NEWARK SUNDAY NEWS  
ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE NEWARK EVENING NEWS  
THE MORNING CALL

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1957

## Gratifying Report

THE racial agitation in Little Rock has induced a little soul-searching everywhere else in the nation. Newark, like many others, seems to be over. This self-examination has taken official form in a timely and exhaustive report issued by a research team from the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies.

The survey was undertaken three months ago, long before the name of Gov. Faubus was spread across the world's front pages. The report was prepared at the behest of Mayor Carlvin C. Price, who then was editor in Chief of the Newark Evening News. In his capacity as a community spokesman, said the researcher, place Newark in "that leading minority of American cities where concern for group relations and civil rights is keen and unswilling."

Even among Northern cities, the survey found, Newark's public record is establishing and protecting the civil rights of all groups is "exceptionally fine." However, racial tensions still exist in Newark. Despite the best intentions, the survey found, Negroes and whites do not disappear quickly or prejudices do not die easily.

Nevertheless, Newark has made great progress in Newark economically and culturally, the report emphasized that hotels, restaurants, bowling alleys and swimming pools are open to him without question. As for schools, the report indicated that here the problem was more that of discrimination than lack of facilities of the city than anything else.

Although some employers may continue to discriminate in hiring and upgrading Negroes, the report said that few exclude them completely and "barrier after barrier is employment of minorities in offices, factories and laboratories has fallen."

From the enlarged opportunities for Negroes have come a strong middle-income attainment and a rising income. The increase is their purchase of houses since World War II. This trend, the report added, was quickened by the Supreme Court's 1948 decision declaring restrictive covenants unconstitutional. In addition, Newark has built more public housing than any other city of its size and has "made a decided effort toward integrated

## Newark Cited for Record on Rights

### Survey of Group Relations Praises City's Exceptional Rating

Newark's record in establishing and protecting civil rights among all groups is "exceptionally high, even among northern cities," according to a report made public last week. The report was written by a research team headed \$100,000 and \$20,000 by Dr. Chester Rapkin of the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Studies, and the Negro population in Newark, mainly a Negro factor in the Negro population increase.

The report found, however, that racial tensions still exist in areas such as housing and schools. The Negro population survey showed Negroes moved into formerly all-white neighborhoods and that the

private housing "resistance among

city's total.

The rapidly expanding number of Negroes, the report pointed out, is one of the problems of maintaining city tax revenues and of providing Negroes with lower average incomes than private housing in the country."

It also pointed out that this will be accompanied by an increasing demand for these city services and facilities, particularly in the Negro population.

Consequently, the report said, the Negro population must be accommodated by the city's tax and income system.

The report said Newark has built

THE NEWARK SUNDAY NEWS, NEWARK, N. J., STAR-LEDGER, SEPTEMBER 28, 1957

## Newark rates high in civil rights

By CHAS. SE. GARRETT

Newark's record for establishing and protecting civil rights among Negroes has been restored to nearly the level it was before the high rate among northern cities, according to a preliminary study by the Negro population and the greater difficulty they encounter in getting most

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the research firm of Chester Rapkin and Associates, found that racial tensions still exist in such areas as private housing and employment.

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## PROGRAM SERVICES FOR NEWARK ORGANIZATIONS

In the last issue of Human Relations News, the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations offered to all organizations and clubs in the Newark area, a program arranging service for local meetings and discussions.

The response to this extension of the Commission's educational facilities has been outstanding. Requests have come in from a broad cross-section of organizations indicating their plans to conduct programs on human relations. Among those which have responded are: religious institutions and church clubs; civic and social clubs; fraternities and sororities; PTA's; service and business clubs; library groups; veterans' organizations and community councils.

Here is a sample of programs booked during the months of September and October:

Guild for Jewish Children—"You and other People"

John A. Brady Association — Film Forum: Prejudice & Employment

Cleveland Jr. High School—Panel-Film Forum: Psychology of Prejudice

Young Mothers' Club—Van Buren St. Branch Library: What is the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations?

Catholic Daughters of America—What is the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations?

Urban League Board—What is Community Survey?

Young Mothers' Club — Weequahic Branch Library: "You and Other People" The Psychology of Prejudice

The following list of available films and topics include some of the areas of discussion in which your organization may be interested. A program can be arranged to meet the needs and specific concerns of your group. Please let us know what they are.

### Films

**BOUNDARY LINES:** Animated cartoon revealing the scientific facts of the biological commonness of all people.

**THE HIGH WALL:** Its scenes, conversations, and commentary provide rich material for discussions on education and child development, on community and intergroup relations, and on the ethics emphasized in religious teaching.

**OUR TOWN IS THE WORLD:** A dramatic lesson in democracy, as youngsters from different parts of town discover that they can plan and get along together when understanding replaces ignorance and intolerance.

**PICTURE IN YOUR MIND:** A powerful presentation and plea for understanding of man's need to find a way to live peacefully on our congested earth.

**CAN WE IMMUNIZE AGAINST PREJUDICE?:** A discussion spring-board of animated drawings depicting three ways parents try to raise their children free of prejudice but with limited success. Asks how we can more effectively immunize against prejudice.

**RUMOR:** A discussion film case history of how a rumor can and did cause inter-group tension and conflict. It asks how we can stop such rumors from spreading.

**TEANECK'S INTERRACIAL NEIGHBORHOOD:** Television documentary report of how white families in Teaneck, New Jersey, are accepting and working together with their Negro neighbors to improve property values instead of running away.

**THE TOYMAKER:** Puppets play happily together until they discover differences in their appearance. Fear and a fight follow until they realize that they are both created and loved by the same God.

**THE PRINCESS IN THE TOWER:** The touching story of a newcomer to a typical neighborhood who feels lonely and rejected until she learns that to be accepted she must try to be a friendly neighbor and accept others as of equal worth in their own individual and interesting way.

**THE GREENIE:** The story of a little Polish refugee boy, recently arrived in

America, who is at first ridiculed and rejected by the youngsters on his block, but is finally accepted by them in true American spirit.

**COMMENCEMENT:** The President's Committee on Government Contracts: The story of how an employer's failure to make clear his policy of employment on merit resulted in his subordinates and employment referral agencies assuming that minority workers were not wanted, thus depriving his company of some of the best qualified workers.

**THAT ALL MEN ARE CREATED EQUAL:** Based on the "Turnover Talk for Fair Practices," concerns how discrimination weakens the unions and hurts all workers, and what labor people can do to secure full and equal opportunity for all.

**RUMOR CLINIC:** Film strip. A humorous "game" guaranteed to involve even "wall-flowers" in a lively discussion and self-teaching demonstration that we all have stereotypes of members of other groups that distort what we see and hear and that may cause harmful rumors.

### Topics for Discussion

1. What is the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations?
2. Panel discussion on Rutgers Workshop in Human Relations.
3. Film forum on the Psychology of Prejudice.
4. The Unfinished Business of American democracy.
5. What is a Community Survey of Intergroup Relations?
6. The Law and Civil Rights.
7. Human Relations in New Jersey.
8. How to Answer Prejudiced Remarks.

If you are interested in arranging a program for your club, contact the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations, Room 214, City Hall, Newark, N. J. MI 3-6300, Ext. 281. Ask for Daniel Anthony or Walter Chambers.

## United Nations Week

(Continued from Page 1 Column 2)

Hotel Essex House. This phase of the celebration is open to the public, *free of charge*. Tickets for this program are available to any individual or organization through the office of the Mayor's Commission, Room 214, City Hall, Newark, Mitchell 3-6300, Ext. 281. This is a Newark Celebration open to all, *with or without a ticket*. Tickets will be honored between 7:30-8 p.m. to assure you a selection of the best seats.

The enthusiasm and co-operative efforts which have led to the success of past celebrations are certainly evident this year. Besides the usual problems of planning an outstanding program, the Committee is faced with the task of raising most of its own funds to cover expenses of the celebration. Many of the co-operating organizations and individuals have already given or pledged financial support but more is still needed. Contributions may be sent to: Newark Committee for the United Nations Celebration, Room 214, City Hall, Newark 2, New Jersey.

## Community Activities

The South Ward Home Owners and Tenants' League are planning their annual Clean-up Week campaign, October 15-22. This annual drive is directed by the League to enlist neighborhood support and participation in maintaining the standards and conditions of the South Ward.

This year the block campaign will be concentrated on Ridgewood Avenue, between Watson and Meeker Avenues. Residents of this area are invited to cooperate with their neighbors and members of the League in this clean-up drive, which will serve as a model for other blocks in this community.

Prizes will be awarded to those homes showing the greatest overall improvement.

## Police Recruit Training In Human Relations

The Staff of the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations recently conducted a four hour course in human relations for 15 recruit policemen in training at the Newark Police Academy. The Academy is under the direction of Captain Richard Foley.

In the past, these groups have averaged 35-40 men, which sometimes makes group discussion difficult. A summary of all the course evaluations in four years indicates that 85% of the men rated the course either "very fine," "good" or "all right." Only 14% felt that the sessions were mediocre and 1% no good.

Even greater success was realized with this smaller group of fifteen who were highly enthusiastic and responsive in the discussions which followed the introductory presentations of the Staff members. The men were able to get into a deeper analysis of the psychology of prejudice, application of the New Jersey Anti-Discrimination Law and the role of the individual policeman in the field of human relations.

In their written evaluations of the course, eleven of the men rated the four hours very fine or excellent and four rated them good. Their comments indicated that all were in favor of the open discussion and freedom to speak which gave them a better understanding of the problem of intergroup relations as it affects their jobs as policemen.

Ments. A trophy was presented to last year's winner by Mayor Leo P. Carlin and the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

For further information concerning the Clean-up Week campaign or the work of the League, contact Mrs. Frances Ford, 126 Watson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey.

## SELECTED READING

James, Selwyn. *Learning to Live Together*. Redbook, June 1957. A revisit after two years to Teaneck, New Jersey, which Redbook earlier featured in "We Refused to Give Up Our Homes," finds the community unchanged and white and Negro families good neighbors. Reprints of both articles available from the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing, 33 W. 32nd Street, N. Y. 1, N. Y.

## Neighborhood Survey

(Continued from Page 1, Column 3)

Commission's Committee reported, "The specifications have been submitted to five responsible research organizations who will make formal proposals to the Commission before October 16th. On that date the Commission will select the organization who will be given the contract to complete the \$30,000 survey by December of 1958." Weitzman indicated that the purpose of this progressive research program is to supply the Commission with information which it can use in maintaining harmonious and peaceful relationships among the diversified groups which constitute the population of the City of Newark.

Collier added, "The Commission decided upon a study of changing neighborhoods and population trends because these two problems were most closely related to the future stability of neighborhoods in our community."

Research organizations will be asked to concentrate on the attitudes of New Yorkers in neighborhoods which have already changed in racial and ethnic composition, those which are in the process of changing and those few areas which still remain unchanged.

Dan Anthony said, "Such a survey will supply the Mayor, City Council and Commission on Group Relations with factual information necessary for a concerted approach to the ideal of a New Newark and a more prosperous and peaceful city."

## MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON GROUP RELATIONS

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